when the Coordination Council, which is the executive body to facilitate the implementation of the agreement, will be constituted and commences its functioning as provided in the agreement.

Setting-up of Inland Waterways Transport Development Council

3589. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Inland Water Transport Development Council for the Development of inland waterways transport has been set-up;

(b) if so, when the Council was set-up and what are the terms of reference of the Council;

(c) whether it is a fact that in the month of August, 2001 the Council held its first meeting; and

(d) if so, the outcome of the meeting?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An Inland Water Transport Development Council, under the Chairmanship of Minister of Shipping, was set-up on 14.5.2001, with the following terms of references:—

(i) To monitor the status/progress of overall development of waterways and improvement in the share of IWT in cargo and passenger involvement.

(ii) To assess the future, coordinate development of waterways in the country.

(iii) To review the policy framework and recommend changes/ modifications.

(iv) To examine requirement of funds for IWT development and recommend facilitative steps.

(v) To recommend measures for steady development of IWT as an integrated component of multimodal transport.

(vi) Any other issue relating to development of IWT, which is of common interest for the Center and the States.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The first meeting of Inland Water Development Council was held on 25.8.2001 at New Delhi. As regards outcome of the meeting, following recommendations were made by the Council:—

- Setting-up of IWT Directorate/Divisions by each of the State Governments for focused development of IWT Programmes for better coordination among various agencies and for implementing regulations relating to IWT.
- Preparation of status paper by each State on their Inland Waterways, evolving strategy for their development and linkage with National Waterways, where these exist and drawing up a comprehensive plan.
- Declaration of new national waterways as may be feasible with a view to extend the coverage of IWT in the country and to avail of the advantage of such waterways. Provision of all necessary facilities in the existing 3 waterways within 10th Plan period *i.e.* dependable fairway, terminals, reliable and full time navigation together with fixed and regular cargo service schedule; the justification of these projects not to be determined by the rate of return during the 10th Plan but by the need for creating necessary infrastructure as developmental activity.
- States to earmark of fixed percentage of their budget for road and tourism sectors for accelerated IWT development.
- States to empower Panchayats to undertake various supporting activities such as desilting, construction of approach roads, jetties, watch and ward activities for development and maintenance of the waterways for generation of economic activities and employment.
- The States should also dovetail approved developmental programmes to take care of some of the local requirement of IWT.
- Development of tourism related activities including water cruises around and between places of heritage, historical, cultural and religious importance.

Provisions set for the registration of orphanages

†3590. SHRI B.P. SINGHAL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the requirements/conditions set for the registration of the orphanages in view of the incidents of exploitation of the children therein;

(b) whether all the orphanages are constantly complying with such requirements;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.